

AMENDMENT

In the specification:

Please amend the first two paragraphs on page 1 of the specification as follows:

Cross Reference to Related Applications ~~Field of the invention:~~

This application is a continuation-in-part of ~~USN~~ U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/580,385, filed May 26, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/070,802, filed May 1, 1998, now abandoned, which takes priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/045,511, filed May 2, 1997, abandoned.

Field of the invention:

This invention relates to the use of mass spectrometry as a means for identifying specific colonization factors 9CF) in a sample of E. coli. The method is useful for tracking infections by differentially identifying the CF produced by specific organisms.